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Lake Maxinkuckee

The Department of Conservation of the state of Indiana has recently published a remarkable monograph on Lake Maxinkuckee, a physical and geological survey by EVERMANN and CLARK.² Lake Maxinkuckee is a small glacial lake similar to thousands of other lakes in the northern Mississippi Valley states, and because of this similarity any study of Lake Maxinkuckee or conclusions drawn therefrom would be typical of other lakes in this region. The work was begun and chiefly financed by a bureau of the United States government, now known as the Bureau of Fisheries. There is a general feeling of surprise and disappointment that the results were not published by the United States government. The Department of Conservation of Indiana, however, is to be congratulated, not only for the excellent manner in which the monograph is published, but also for having saved it from the shelves of discarded manuscripts. The monograph is more than a simple study of the lake, for it treats of the animal and plant life of the lake, as well as the physical surroundings and the life around it and in the air above it. It gives a vivid presentation of the physical, hydrographic, and meteorological features which belong to the lake, and a record of the animal and vegetable life in and about it.

The physical conditions discussed relate to the location, altitude, size, and form of the lake, and the character of the surrounding country. A list of the streams which feed the lake is given, as well as a most interesting account of the ice beach. Under hydrography is discussed the depth of the lake, the topography and character of its bottom, with special discussion of certain deep places, its level, the stage of water, and the volume of outflow. Under meteorology is discussed the sky, the air, the pressure and temperature, the winds, rain, frost, and even the snow, fog, and dew. Then follow exhaustive tables relating to the water temperature and the condition of the water and the formation of the ice. The most interesting paragraph in this chapter relates to the turning over of the lake each fall. Although this phenomenon was not actually observed, it was shown by an elaborate series of soundings just when the change must have taken place. Emphasis, however, is given to the biological features, to which two-thirds of the first volume and all of the second are devoted. The largest part of the biology of course is given to the fishes, since this was the primary object of the investigation. It is stated that 64 species were found in Lake Maxinkuckee. These are all described fully, with many interesting notes on their habits and food value, while there are many suggestions about angling. Many of the fishes are illustrated in color. Thirty species of mammals are recorded, and there are interesting notes about all of them, especially the two species of wolves which once inhabited this part of Indiana, and the disappearance of the beaver and porcupine is noted. Much attention is given to the birds and especially

² EVERMANN, B. W., and CLARK, H. W., *Lake Maxinkuckee*, Vol. 1. pp. 660. pls. 36. fig. 23. Vol. 2. pp. 512. 1920.

to the water fowl, and 175 species are recorded. Considerable space is given to insects and the lower forms of animal life, and especially to those which are of value to the fish fauna of the lake.

The larger part of the second volume is devoted to the flora of Lake Maxinkuckee and its vicinity. This includes a special chapter on the aquatic flora and its uses, and a chapter on the algae, of which 76 species are mentioned. The volume closes with an annotated list of the ferns, fern allies, and seed-bearing plants found in the lake and the surrounding basins, of which 838 species are listed. The arrangement and nomenclature is that of the second edition of BRITTON and BROWN's *Illustrated Flora*. The remarks about the various plants are very readable, while some of the observations are quite unique and have heretofore been unrecorded.

Besides the scientific value of the monograph, its important educational value should not be overlooked. Dr. EVERMANN, the senior author, although now a well known scientist, was originally a teacher in our elementary schools, and the educational importance of scientific research has always been emphasized by him. This book should be made a most helpful guide to the science teachers in our high schools and colleges who wish to do field work. It forms a model for the study of the lake or river valley or even the pond or creek in one's own locality. If the science teachers in the ninety-two counties of Indiana alone should use it with their classes in the study of local problems, a mass of information about the state would be accumulated, and a wonderful interest in nature study would be developed.—J. N. ROSE.

NOTES FOR STUDENTS

Taxonomic notes.—The vascular plants collected by the Canadian Arctic Expedition of 1913-18 on the Arctic coast west of the 100th meridian have been published by MACOUN and HOLM,³ the latter completing the determinations after the death of MACOUN. There have also been included three other collections from the same region. The enumeration includes 230 species, Compositae including 23, Gramineae 22, Ranunculaceae 19, Cruciferae and Saxifragaceae each 18, etc. The largest genus represented is *Saxifraga* with 15 species, followed by *Carex*, *Salix*, and *Ranunculus* each with 12 species. Some interesting comparisons are made with the flora of Greenland and of the west coast of Alaska.

EVANS⁴ has published a detailed study of the liverwort genus *Riccardia*, "often known as *Aneura*," as it is represented in Chile. He recognizes 25 species, of which 3 are new and 17 new combinations. The descriptions are very full, so that the presentation is morphological as well as taxonomic.

³ MACOUN, JAMES M., and HOLM, THEO., Report of the Canadian Arctic Expedition 1913-18. 5: Part A. 1-51. pls. 13. 1921.

⁴ EVANS, A. W., The genus *Riccardia* in Chile. Trans. Conn. Acad. Sci. 25: 93-209. figs. 13. 1921.